

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Accreditation Division works with schools and districts to resolve deviation issues without further actions by the Board of Public Education (BPE). Schools that have serious and/or continuing deviations are in Deficiency status and are expected to develop and implement a corrective plan to remedy the deviations which resulted in the Deficiency status. Schools failing to implement the corrective plan are placed in Intensive Assistance. This process represents the final effort to resolve the school's significant accreditation issues. The school's lack of response to Intensive Assistance can result in a recommendation from the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the BPE to move the school to Non-Accreditation status. Section 20-9-344, MCA, gives the BPE the authority to withhold distribution of state equalization aid when the district fails to submit required reports or maintain accredited status. Administrative Rules of Montana 10.67.102 and 10.67.103 establish the procedures and hearing schedules as adopted by the BPE.







The Office of Public Instruction is committed to equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimintory access to all our programs and services, and will take necessary and appropriate steps to insure that the workplace and OPI programs and services are free of discrimination and sexual harassment.



# Assistance Process



# **Intensive Assistance Process**

#### STEP 1

State Supt. recommends and BPE places school in Intensive Assistance, OPI on-site visit with local Supt/Board. OPI assists with development of a corrective plan.



PLAN NOT FOLLOWED/ NO PLAN/ PLAN NOT APPROVED. Chair of the Board of Trustees and local superintendent required to appear before the BPE; inform parents of the required appearance.

# STEP 3

PLAN NOT FOLLOWED/ NO PLAN/ PLAN NOT APPROVED. State Supt. makes a recommendation that the school be placed in nonaccredited status effective the following July 1. If BPE approves, School Board is notified of its right to appear before the BPE.

If the meetings result in a plan State Supt. recommends to the BPE approval/disapproval of the plan.

If the meeting results in a plan, the State Supt. will make a recommendation to the BPE for approval/disapproval of the plan.

## STEP 4

Following the hearing the BPE takes action on a second consideration of the motion to place the school in Non-Accredited status. BPE takes final action to place the school in Non-Accredited status the following July 1. Section 20-9-344, MCA, gives the Board of Public **Education the authority to** withhold distribution of state equalization aid when the district fails to submit required reports or maintain accredited status.

### PLAN APPROVED.

School remains in Intensive Assistance until the corrective plan is fully implemented within the designated timeline and the school achieves REGULAR accreditation status for two consecutive years.

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Intensive Assistance Process

For more infromation on the Intensive Assistance Process contact: Teri Wing Montana Office of Public Instruction Accreditation Division

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